(b) and (c) The Department of Tourism, Government of India has formulated the following plans to promote tourism in the country:—

1. Positioning and maintaining tourism development as a National priority activity

2. Enhancing and maintaining the competitiveness of India as a tourism destination

3. Improving India's existing tourism products and expanding these to meet new market requirements

4. Creation of world class infrastructure

5. Developing sustained and effective market plans and programmes

6. Special thrust to rural and small segment tourism and

7. Attention to civilizational issues and issues pertaining to civic administration and good governance and also of social and cultural values.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Tourism development plan for Hampi

2815. DR. VIJAY MALLYA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have been requested by the Government of Karnataka to approve the short term tourism development plan for Hampi involving a Central share of Rs. 16.96 crores; and

(b) by when the proposal is likely to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) and (d) Under the Product/Infrastructure and Destination Development Scheme as envisaged in the Tenth Five Year Plan, Hampi has been identified as a destination development project in Karnataka during the year 2002-2003. Housing & Urban Development Corporation has been engaged to prepare the Master Plan for the said project. The project is being planned in consultation with the Government of Karnataka.

Preliminary estimates amounting to Rs. 4.96 crores have been received from the CPWD.

Investment in water management by France

2816. DR.T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:
SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the French Government has shown its keen interest to invest in water management;

(b) if so, whether any agreement in this regard has been reached with the French Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) what are the projects that will be undertaken with the help of France; and

(e) what is the total investments made by France in these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The French Government has shown interest to provide assistance to some projects and for cooperation with Indian Academic and Scientific Institutions through counterpart agencies in water sector. The French Government is providing grant for undertaking feasibility studies and loan assistance for implementing projects on Urban Water Supply and Sanitation including solid waste management under the Indo-French Financial Protocol. A list of such ongoing projects showing proposed assistance is given in the Statement (*See* below). However, no project of Ministry of Water Resources is under implementation with French assistance.

An Indo-French Unit for Water and Waste Technologies has also been established at Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi on 27.2.2002 for which an Agreement was reached with French side on 9.3.2000. An amount of Euro 82,232 has so far been received under this Agreement.

Under the framework of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore and Institute of Research and Development (IRD), Paris, a Joint Laboratory namely